PLIES (SHRI H. K. L. BHAGAT): (a) to (c) The Super Bazar, Delhi, has reported that certain irregularities in the purchase and sale of fruits and vegetables were recently detected. The employees found involved have been placed under suspension and enquiry proceedings have been initiated against them. The Super Bazar has further reported that the purchase system has now been streamlined by associating it with the Agricultural Produce Marketing Committee of Delhi Administration and Commission agents in the market. A proper accounting system has also been introduced for the purchase and sale of fruits and vegetables. Accodring to Super Bazar this has resulted in the improvement in the quality and reduction of the rates of fruits and vegetables sold by the Super Bazar. According to market intelligence reports gathered by the Super Bazar, most of the items sold by it were found to be cheaper than the open market or the Mother Dairy rates.

Suspension of a clerk of NCCF

2080. SHRI RAFIQUE ALAM: Will the Minister of FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES be pleased to refer to reply to Unstarred Question 2088 given in the Rajya Sabha on the 13th March, 1987 and state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the National Cooperative Consumers' Federation had recently referred some documents in respect of a clerk for examination to a Government Laboratory in Shimla;

(b) whether it is also a fact that the NCCF initiated another enquiry in September, 1985 for alleged misconduct against the clerk concerned;

(c) if so, what are the findings of the above enquiries; and

(d) whether it is also a fact that the suspension of the clerk concerned was revoked by the outgoing Managing Director of the NCCF against the orders of his predecessor and the legal advice on the matter; if so, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND THE MINISTER OF FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (SHRI H. K. L. BHAGAT): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir.

(c) In the departmental enquiry the charges against the concerned clerk were established.

(d) Legal opinion in the matter was sought. The former Managing Director revoked the suspension order after giving the clerk a warning and on a clear undertaking given by him for good conduct in future. The NCCF Management has been advised to look into the matter afresh.

Supply of pulses to Super Bazar by NCCF

2081. SHRI RAFIQUE ALAM: Will the Minister of FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES be pleased to state:

(a) what is the total quantity of pulses (except Gram dal) supplied during the last one year by the NCCF to Super Bazar, Delhi;

(b) whether it is a fact that the pulses being supplied to Super Bazar are procured by the NCCF at much higher rates from local markets without any tender etc. through paticular brokers;

(c) whether Government are aware that the purchases from the private trade is a source of corruption and provide huge kickbacks to Branch Manager/Assistant Manager (Grocery), NCCF, Delhi Branch and officers of Super Bazar through the broker thus jacking up the price of pulses by about Rs. 50—100 a quintal as compared to those being sold by Kendriya Bhandars, Delhi;

(d) if so, what are the details in this regard and what action has been taken against the officers involved; and

(e) what steps the Government propose to take to stop this drain and eliminate middlemen in purchases of pulses by Super Bazar/ Civil Supplies Corporations?

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND THE MINISTER OF FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (SHRI H. K. L. BHAGAT): (a) NCCF has supplied 10,678 MTs. of pulses to the Super Bazar from November, 1986 to October, 1987.

(b) to (d) Purchases of pulses by the NCCF for supply to Super Bazar are made on the basis of quotations invited from enlisted brokers|suppliers by a committee constituted for this purpose after verifying the market rates. In view of this, the supply of pulses is made by the NCCF to Super Bazar at mutually accepted rates. For institutionalisation of purchases, cooperatives engaged in retailing are generally advised to make purchases from National-level Federations. The purchases of Super Bazar from the NCCF are made in pursuance of such principles.

(e) Does not arise

Supply of Gramdal to Army Purchase Organisation by NCFC

2082. SHRI RAFIQUE ALAM: Will the Minister of FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the NCCF got an order for supply of Gramdal to Army Purchase Organisation (APO) recently;

(b) whether it is also a fact that the NCCF has entered into an agreement of purchasing Gramdal from M/s. K. S. Food Products, Morena (Madhya Pradesh) without any advertisement for supplying contracted stocks to APO;

(c) whether it is also a fact that in another case of supply of pulses by the NCCF to FCI/APO, the CBI had recommended prosecution of M/s. K. S. Food Products, Morena for supplying sub-standard pulses at exorbitant price to the NCCF;

(d) if so, what are the considerations for contracting by the NCCF with a charged firm and who are the officers involved in this bungling; and

(e) what steps Government have taken to stop such malpractices in the NCCF by its officers in collusion with the traders?

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND THE MINISTER OF FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (SHRI H. K. L. BHAGAT): (a) Yes, Sir

(b) to (e) NCCF has informed that on the basis of floating of queries and lowest rates offered, they entered into an agreement with M|s. K. S. Food Products, Morena for supply of Gramdal to Army Purchase Organisation (APO). NCCF has further informed that the contract with the party has now been terminated, because of its indictment in the CBI Report. NCCF has also been advised to strictly follow financial and procedural norms laid down for making such purchases.

Production of edible oil

2083. SHRI SUNIL BASU RAY: Will the Minister of FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES be pleased to state:

(a) what is the total quantum of edible oil (i) produced in the country, (ii) imported, (iii) exported in the last three years and the net quantum available for consumption uptodate;

(b) whether the edible oil situation is satisfactory; and

(c) what are the reasons for present crisis in edible oil situation?

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND THE MINISTER OF FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES